



**Minutes of the
ALAMEDA FREE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
March 11, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Alameda Free Library Board was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ruth Belikove, President
Mike Hartigan, Vice President
Karen Butter, Board Member
Alan Mitchell, Board Member
Gail Wetzork, Board Member

Absent: None

Staff: Jane Chisaki, Library Director
Marsha Merrick, Recording Secretary

CONSENT CALENDAR

An asterisk indicates items so enacted or adopted on the Consent Calendar.

- A. *Report from the Library Director Highlighting Activities for the Month of March 2009. Accepted.
- B. *Draft Minutes of the Regular Library Board Meeting of February 11, 2009. Approved.
- C. *Library Services Report for the Month of January 2009. Accepted.
- D. *Financial Report Reflecting FY 2008-09 Expenditures by Fund through February 2009. Accepted.
- E. *Bills for Ratification for the Month of February 2009. Approved.

Vice President Hartigan asked Director Chisaki to go into a little more detail about the decreases in the activity report. Chisaki said there were more open hours in 2008, and in an hour to hour comparison of checkouts, statistics are actually up. Database searching is down mainly due to internet speed. The main line coming in is the problem, nothing internal.

Bob Haun is still working on getting LEED certification; he receives periodic progress updates and responds to questions. It still looks good for a silver certification at this point.

President Belikove asked for a motion to accept the Consent Calendar as presented. Vice President Hartigan so moved; Member Mitchell seconded the motion which carried by a 5-0 vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA (Public Comment)

There were no communications from the audience members present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Neighborhood Library Improvement Project (G. Wetzork)

The project team met on the previous Wednesday. Noll & Tam walked everyone through the branch reports and discussed must dos (modifications required by law), strongly recommended items (these are suggested but not required), and recommended items. The team will meet again the following Wednesday, and a staff session is scheduled for March 30. The WEB community meeting was held March 10 with about 20 people attending. The BFI community meeting will be held on March 12. The branch meetings were announced in the papers, posted on the City web page and at both branch locations. Vice President Hartigan felt the WEB meeting was a success with lots of good comments from both staff and the public, and that the project is heading in the right direction.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Art Exhibit Committee (R. Belikove)

President Belikove said there are currently two exhibits in the building; collages by artist Mark Fox-Morgan line the walls of the second floor, and the Alameda Women artists have their works displayed in the Stafford Rooms on the first floor. Belikove felt the reception held the previous week had been very well done, and there's been good newspaper coverage, especially by the Alameda Sun. The Art Exhibit Committee will meet the following morning and discuss the art openings, planning who to advise/invite, etc.

B. Alameda Free Library Foundation (A. Mitchell)

Director Chisaki had attended the Foundation's Executive Board meeting, and reported to them on the branch project. The Foundation is considering selling shelves in the renovated branches.

C. Friends of the Alameda Free Library (M. Lambert)

Marc Lambert reported that the Friends monthly newsletter had just come out, and that the Friends next book sale will take place on the weekend of May 1, 2 and 3.

D. Patron suggestions/comments (Speak-Outs) and Library Director's response.

Teens on MySpace are a distraction to other library users. The Library has become a community meeting place, yet efforts are made to maintain quiet. Ask a staff member for assistance if it is needed. Please re-order Queens Fool by Philippa Gregory. Two copies were ordered; it was not known that the original copy was lost.

LIBRARY BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

President Belikove asked if the Library offered employment assistance. Director Chisaki said they had tried for a grant being offered for this type of program, but did not get it. The Library, Recreation & Parks Department, Alameda Youth Collaborative and the College of Alameda are currently teamed up to put on a workshop for teens titled "You're Hired – Secrets of a Good Job Interview".

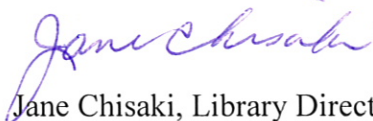
DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Library Legislative Day will be on April 15, and Director Chisaki asked the group if anyone wanted to attend with her. President Belikove was interested, however, would be coming back from a trip the previous day, and would have to let Chisaki know later. Marc Lambert also expressed interest, and will check his schedule for availability. Honora Murphy is already confirmed to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

President Belikove asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Member Butter so moved; Member Mitchell seconded the motion which carried by a 5-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Jane Chisaki, Library Director and
Secretary to the Alameda Free Library Board